December 7th 2023 2:50AM

People who assign others as being "female-presenting" or "feminine-presenting" or "male-presenting" or "masculine-presenting" are very, very blatantly just prioritizing their own comfort over anyone's actual identity.

They think you look like a man, so they're going to say you're presenting yourself as male or masculine.

They think you look like a woman, so they're going to say you're presenting yourself as female or feminine.

They do not want to confront the fact that *their bias* of assuming genders is harmful, so instead of taking the time to unpack their own thoughts and feelings, they turn their discomfort outward and start claiming that *you* are the reason you're being misgendered, because you're not putting in enough effort to make their bias flip to the other side of the binary coin.

"If you don't want to be called a man, try harder to look like a woman". "If you don't want to be called a

woman, try harder to look like a man", is the logic going on here.

They don't want to accept the fact that men can "look like women" and women can "look like men", and they definitely do not fucking want to acknowledge that people who are neither, or both, exist.

In their minds it must be one or the other -- man or woman, male or female, masculine or feminine. And if they think you look like one of those things, well, that's your fault now, and not something *they* need to unpack.

Because accepting that the strict gender binary of "male OR female, with no crossover or anything in between or anything outside of those two options" is fake is too much effort and would upset them.

They don't want to think about the fact that you can't tell someone's gender by looking at them. They don't want to think about the fact that every other person in the world has a mind of their own and thought and feelings internal to themselves. They just want to see

everyone else as a mindless automaton who only exists when they're looking, and has no identity or autonomy to itself.

They don't want to break down the gender binary, because the gender binary is the only thing they care to understand.

They don't care that they're misgendering people, as long as they can pretend that they're being progressive by using The Right Language™ (that trans people have been criticizing for years), and actually, if they misgender someone by assuming someone's gender, that's not their fault! It's the fault of the victim, for not putting in enough effort to check the boxes that would make their bias flip in the other direction.

And if there is no acceptable "other direction" for you, because you're neither a man nor a woman, or you're always both, or more?

Well, to these people, you simply do not exist, and that's the way they like it. Because you complicate

things and upset their worldview, and maintaining their internal status quo worshiping the gender binary is the only thing that matters to them.

As long as they think they can get away with it, they will happily misgender anyone they want, and by using "x-presenting" terminology, they are actively laying the blame for their own actions at the feet of their victim, and patting themselves on the back for being So Progressive™